

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY**

**Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Program  
Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control,  
River and Coastal Protection Act of 2006 (Proposition 84)**

**Applicant:** CALIFORNIA RANGELAND TRUST

**Project Title:** CRT CONSERVATION EASEMENT GRANT REQUEST –  
GOODWIN RANCHES

**Application Number:** SNC 080126

**PROJECT SCOPE**

This project will acquire a conservation easement on 6,862 acre of the Goodwin Ranch. The ranch consists of two working portions known as Red Clover Valley Ranch and Sierra Valley Ranch. Red Clover Valley, located in Plumas County in the north end of the Sierra Valley, is surrounded by the Plumas National Forest. It includes diversified habitat types: alpine meadows, riparian areas, sage brush steppe, and east-side pine forests. The presence of four significant species has been confirmed by CA Department of Fish & Game. In 2006, the Red Clover Ranch was part of a major creek restoration project that improved the water and sediment retention functions of the watershed, with objectives focusing on reduced bank erosion, improved water quality, improved fish and wildlife habitat, reduced flood flows, and increased base flows. The acquisition of a conservation easement will facilitate future similar projects, one of which is in the planning stage. The Sierra Valley Ranch houses the Goodwin Ranch headquarters and is located on the valley floor. Along with extensive wetlands, this portion of the ranch is located on a major flyway for migratory birds. It is also exposed to considerable subdivision pressures from nearby Reno. This acquisition will protect the existing habitat along with three perennial streams in the Feather River watershed, an important source of water for the Sacramento – San Joaquin Delta region.

Outcomes delivered through the SNC grant:

- Acquisition of a conservation easement on 3,903 acres – Red Clover Valley (Plumas County APN 008-260-01, 008-260-03, 009-140-02, 009-140-03, 009-140-04, 009-160-01, 009-170-01, 009-170-03, 009-170-04, 009-170-05) providing permanent protection of the natural resources within its boundaries.
- Acquisition of a conservation easement on 2,958 acres – Sierra Valley Ranch (Plumas County APN 010-030-09, 010-030-10, 010-030-11 por, 010-030-15, 010-030-16 por, 010-030-18, 010-030-19, 010-030-21, 010-030-23, 030-040-31, 010-040-32, 010-040-33, 010-40-34, 010-040-35, 010-040-25, 010-040-26, 010-040-28, 010-040-30, 010-040-43, 010-040-44, 010-04052, 010-040-53, 010-040-54, 010-050-06) providing permanent protection of the natural resources within its boundaries.

Additional project benefits:

- Protection and improvement of water quality in the Feather River watershed
- Opportunities for future stream restoration
- Increase in continuity of wildlife corridors
- Protection and enhancement of the economic viability of working landscapes in the Sierra Valley

**PROJECT SCHEDULE**

<b>DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>
<b>SNC Grant Authorization</b>	<b>Mar 2009</b>
Start: Escrow Instructions & Preliminary Title Report	May 2009
Complete Baseline Conditions Report	Sep 2009
Complete Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Report	Sep 2009
Complete Conservation Easement Document & Monitoring Protocol	Oct 2009
<b>Submit Progress Report to SNC</b>	<b>Nov 2009</b>
Secure Funding from SNC	Dec 2009
Secure Funding from WCB	Dec 2009
Review of Transaction Documents by SNC	Dec 2010
Close Escrow and Record Conservation Easement	Dec 2009
Erect Signage and Send out Press Release	Jan 2010
<b>Final Report / Final Payment Request</b>	<b>Feb 2010</b>
Conduct First Annual Monitoring Visit	Jun 2010

**SNC PORTION OF PROJECT COSTS**

<b>PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES</b>	<b>TOTAL SNC FUNDING</b>
Conservation Easement Acquisition Funds	\$ 873,000
Escrow Fees, Title Insurance, Closing Costs	6,000
Rangeland Trust Directly Related Administrative Costs	35,000
Rangeland Trust Performance Measures and Reporting	5,000
Rangeland Trust Hard Costs	1,000
<b>SNC GRANT TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 920,000</b>

**ADDITIONAL FUNDING SOURCES**

<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Sierra Business Council	\$ 13,200
Sierra Business Council	15,000
Wildlife Conservation Board	
Sierra Valley Ranch	2,280,000
Red Clover Valley Ranch	2,347,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4,655,200</b>

### **PROJECT SUPPORT LETTERS**

- California Cattlemen's Association
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Plumas Corporation

### **PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

There are four Performance Measures common to all grants. In addition, grantees are required to include between one and three project-specific measures. Performance Measures listed here represent those proposed by applicants and may be modified through further discussion with SNC staff.

- Acres of Land Conserved: 6,862
- Linear Feet of Stream Bank Protected: 3+/- miles